

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0252

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CH MPOL

SUBJ: LIBERATION ARMY DAILY CALLS FOR ARMY RECTIFICATION

REFS: (A) HONG KONG 988 (B) PEKING 141

1. SUMMARY. A LIBERATION ARMY DAILY (LAD) EDITORIAL PRINTED IN THE JANUARY 26 PEOPLE'S DAILY CALLS FOR FOCUSING OF "ALL WORK IN OUR ARMY FOR A PERIOD OF TIME" ON RECTIFICATION OF LEADING ORGANS. ALLUDING TO THREE PSEUDONYMOUS ARTICLES PRINTED EARLIER IN LAD (REFTELS), THE EDITORIAL SPECIFIES THAT PRIME TARGETS FOR RECTIFICATION MUST INCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE "SHIFTING WITH THE WINDS," "SLIPPERY," AND "EARTHQUAKE" FACTIONS. IT ALSO ENUMERATES OTHER TYPES WHO, WHILE NEVER LINKED WITH THE GANG OF FOUR, HAVE "POOR POLITICAL QUALITY" AND MUST THEREFORE BE REMOVED. THE EDITORIAL, WHICH IS WRITTEN IN MEASURED STYLE, CALLS FOR RAPID IMPROVEMENT AND MODERNIZATION OF WEAPONS AND ARMAMENTS, BUT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THIS MAY BE DONE ONLY UNDER "EXISTING CONDITIONS" AND WITH
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DUE REGARD FOR THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION AND NATIONAL DEFENSE CONSTRUCTION. THE EDITORIAL CONDITIONALLY APPROVES FOR STUDY THE DOCUMENTS OF THE 1960 ENLARGED MILITARY CONFERENCE AND IT VIGOROUSLY AFFIRMS THE CORRECTNESS OF LINE AND ALL DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE 1975 ENLARGED MILITARY COMMISSION MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. A LIBERATION ARMY DAILY EDITORIAL BROADCAST OVER PEKING RADIO AND PRINTED IN THE JANUARY 26 PEOPLE'S DAILY CALLS FOR FOCUSING OF "ALL WORK IN OUR ARMY FOR A PERIOD OF TIME" ON RECTIFICATION OF LEADING ORGANS. ENTITLED "GRASP THE KEY LINK AND BRING ORDER TO THE ARMY, PREPARE TO WAGE WAR," THE EDITORIAL MAINTAINS THAT "THERE WILL BE AN EVEN GREATER ASSURANCE OF DEFEATING THE ENEMY" IF THE CADRE RANKS ARE RECTIFIED, THE OLDER GENERATION TEACHES THE NEW, GOOD MATERIAL PREPARATIONS ARE MADE, AND MODERN WEAPONS AND ARMAMENTS ARE ADDED.

3. ALLUDING TO THREE PSEUDONYMOUS ARTICLES PRINTED EARLIER IN LAD (REFTELS), THE EDITORIAL IDENTIFIES PRIME TARGETS FOR RECTIFICATION AS MEMBERS OF THE "SHFITING WITH THE WINDS," "SLIPPERY," AND "EARTHQUAKE" FACTIONS. IN ADDITION, THE EDITORIAL SPECIFIES THAT "PERSONS WHO HAVE COMMITTED SERIOUS MISTAKES" AND WHOSE "ATTITUDE IS VERY BAD" SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO RETAIN THEIR POSITIONS. FINALLY, THE EDITORIAL NOTES POINTEDLY THAT "THERE IS A KIND OF PERSON WHO, WHILE HAVING NO TIES TO THE GANG OF FOUR, STILL HAS BAD POLITICAL QUALITY ... IS HEGEMONISTIC (I.E., DICTATORIAL), OR WAVERS, OR IS GOOD AT SECTARIAN ACTIVITIES, OR MAINPULATES POWER TO SPECIALIZE IN RECTIFYING OTHERS, OR WHOSE REVOLUTIONARY WILL HAS SERIOUSLY ATROPHIED..." SUCH PEOPLE, THE PASSAGE CONCLUDES, MUST BE BARRED FROM THE LEADERSHIP RANKS AND NOT PERMITTED TO HOLD IMPORTANT CONFIDENTIAL

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POSITIONS.

4. WHILE THE IDENTIFICATION OF A VARIETY OF TARGETS IMPLIES A THOROUGH RECTIFICATION CAMPAIGN, THE TONE OF THE EDITORIAL IS MEASURED AND THERE IS NO HINT THROUGHOUT AS TO THE LEVEL OF THE TARGETS.

5. IN JUSTIFICATION OF THE URGENT NECESSITY FOR RECTIFICATION AND MODERNIZATION, THE EDITORIAL ARGUES IN STANDARD FASHION, WAR BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS IS INEVITABLE, THIS WAR CAN BE DELAYED BUT NOT AVOIDED THROUGH EFFORTS BY OTHER NATIONS, THERE IS NO WAY OF PREDICTING WHETHER THE ENEMY (HE IS A "MADMAN") MIGHT LAUNCH A SUDDEN AND LARGE-SCALE ATTACK, AND THE CHINESE MUST THEREFORE PLAN ON A WORST CASE BASIS AND BE PREPARED AGAINST AN OUTBREAK OF WAR "TOMORROW."

6. HENCE THE EDITORIAL TWICE NOTES THE NEED FOR "RAPID" MODERNIZATION OF WEAPONS AND ARMAMENTS, BUT IT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THIS MAY BE DONE ONLY UNDER "EXISTING CONDITIONS" (E.E.,) SCANT RESOURCES) AND WITH DUE REGARD FOR THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION AND NATIONAL DEFENSE CONSTRUCTION. THE BEST ROUTE, ACCORDINGLY, IS "TO

THE GRREATEST POSSIBLE EXTENT" REDUCE AND ECONOMIZE ON
MILITARY EXPENDITURES SO AS TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL
ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION.

7. THE EDITORIAL CONDITIONALLY APPROVES FOR GENERAL
STUDY THE DOCUMENTS "PERSONALLY REVISED AND APPROVED
BY CHAIRMAN MAO" AT THE 1960 ENLARGED MILITARY CONFERENCE
"ONCE THE THINGS STUCK IN BY LIN PIAO ARE EXCISES".

8. IN CONCLUSION, THE EDITORIAL VIGOROUSLY AFFIRS THE
CORRECTNESS OF LINE AND ALL DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE 1975
ENLARGED MILITARY COMMISSION CONFERENCE. IT EXPLICITLY
PUTS THE SEAL OF APPROVAL ON "THE TWO SPEECHES" AT THE
CONFERENCE (THE EDITORIAL COYLY DOES NOT DIVULGE THAT THEY
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WERE DELIVERED BY YEH CHIEN-YING AND TENG HSIAO-PIING) AND
EXPLICITLY HAILS THE RECTIFICATION LAUNCHED AGAINST THE
"SOFT, LAZY AND LAX" (JUAN-LAN-SAN) ELEMENTS IN THE
MILITARY.

9. COMMENT: AN EDITORIAL LIKE THIS QUITE PROBABLY REFLECTS
THE RESULTS OF A RECENT HIGH-LEVEL MILITARY CONFERENCE.
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